

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for operating a computer to facilitate a lease transaction, said method comprising the steps of:

prompting a customer to select a lease transaction type;

prompting the customer to provide information required to generate at least one document for the selected lease transaction type; and

generating the document using the customer provided information.

2. A method according to Claim 1 wherein prompting a customer to select a lease transaction type comprises the step of displaying a computer generated screen listing a plurality of lease transaction type selections.

3. A method according to Claim 2 wherein said lease transaction type selections comprise at least one of a lease extension, a lease, and a purchase lease back agreement.

4. A method according to Claim 3 wherein for a lease extension, prompting the customer to provide information required to generate at least one document comprises the step of displaying information related to at least one lease to the customer.

5. A method according to Claim 1 wherein prompting the customer to provide information required to generate at least one document comprises the step of displaying a computer generated screen listing a plurality of equipment criteria and delivery requirements.

6. A method according to Claim 1 further comprising the steps of searching a database to identify equipment which match criteria supplied by the customer in response to prompting the customer to provide information required to generate at least one document, and displaying to the customer at least some information relating to at least some of the equipment identified as a match from the database search.

7. A method according to Claim 6 wherein a customer is prompted to select at least one of the identified equipment, and wherein generating the document comprises the step of populating the selected document type with data related to the one identified equipment.

8. A method according to Claim 6 wherein the equipment comprises at least one of aircraft, aircraft engines, rail cars, locomotives, ships, vehicles, and containers.

9. A computer programmed to:
 prompt a customer to select a type of lease transaction;
 prompt a customer to provide information required to generate at least one document for the selected lease transaction type; and
 generate the at least one document using the customer provided information.

10. A computer according to Claim 9 wherein to prompt a customer to select a type of lease transaction, said computer displays a computer generated screen listing a plurality of lease transaction type selections.

11. A computer according to Claim 10 wherein said document type selections comprise at least one of a lease extension, a lease, and a sale and lease back agreement.

12. A computer according to Claim 11 wherein for a lease extension, said computer displays, to the customer, information related to at least one lease.

13. A computer according to Claim 9 wherein to prompt a customer to provide information required to generate the at least one document, said computer displays a computer generated screen listing a plurality of equipment criteria and delivery requirements.

14. A computer according to Claim 9 further programmed to search a database to identify equipment which match criteria supplied by the customer in response to prompting the customer to provide information required to generate the at

least one document, and to display to the customer at least some information relating to at least some of the equipment identified as a match from the database search.

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15. A computer according to Claim 14 further programmed to prompt a customer to select at least one of the identified equipment, and wherein to generate the at least one document, said computer populates the document with data related to the one identified equipment.

16. A computer according to Claim 14 wherein the equipment comprises at least one of aircraft, aircraft engines, rail cars, locomotives, ships, vehicles, and containers.

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17. A database comprising:

data corresponding to an availability query submitted by a customer and related to a lease transaction; and

data corresponding to equipment criteria for equipment for lease.

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18. A database according to Claim 17 further comprising data corresponding to search results from execution of the availability query.

19. A database according to Claim 17 further comprising data corresponding to a customer desired equipment configuration.

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20. A database according to Claim 17 further comprising data corresponding to availability of equipment for lease.

21. A system for generating lease documents, said system comprising:

a database comprising data corresponding to equipment criteria for equipment for lease; and

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a server configured prompt a marketing executive to select a type of document to be generated and to provide information required to generate the selected document type.

22. A system according to Claim 21 wherein said database further comprises at least one of data corresponding to an availability query submitted by a

marketing executive and related to a lease transaction, data corresponding to search results from execution of the availability query, data corresponding to a marketing executive desired equipment configuration, and data corresponding to availability of equipment for lease.

23. A system according to Claim 21 wherein said server is configured to cause a screen listing a plurality of transaction type selections to be displayed at a client computer.

24. A system according to Claim 23 wherein said transaction type selections comprise at least one of a lease extension, a lease, and a purchase lease back agreement.

25. A system according to Claim 23 wherein for a lease extension, said server causes said client computer to display information related to at least one lease.

26. A system according to Claim 21 wherein to prompt a marketing executive to provide information required to generate the selected document type, said server is configured to cause to be displayed at a client computer a screen listing a plurality of equipment criteria and delivery requirements.

27. A system according to Claim 21 wherein said server is configured to cause said database to be searched to identify equipment which match criteria supplied in response to prompting the marketing executive to provide information required to generate the selected document type, and to display at a client computer at least some information relating to at least some of the equipment identified as a match from the database search.

28. A system according to Claim 27 wherein said server is further configured to prompt a marketing executive to select at least one of the identified equipment, and wherein to generate the selected document type using the customer provided information, said server is configured to populate the selected document type with data related to the one identified equipment.

29. A system according to Claim 27 wherein the equipment comprises at least one of aircraft, aircraft engines, rail cars, locomotives, ships, vehicles, and containers.

30. A method for initiating a lease transaction, said method comprising the steps of:

prompting a customer to select a type of lease transaction;

prompting the customer to provide information regarding equipment to be subject to the lease transaction; and

prompting the customer to request generation of a term sheet for the lease transaction.

31. A method according to Claim 30 wherein prompting a customer to select a type of lease transaction comprises the step of displaying a computer generated screen listing a plurality of lease transaction type selections.

32. A method according to Claim 31 wherein said lease transaction type selections comprise at least one of a lease extension, a lease, and a purchase lease back agreement.

33. A method according to Claim 32 wherein for a lease extension, prompting a customer to provide information regarding equipment to be subject to the lease transaction comprises the step of displaying information related to at least one lease to the customer.

34. A method according to Claim 30 wherein prompting the customer to provide information regarding equipment to be subject to the lease transaction comprises the step of displaying a computer generated screen listing a plurality of equipment criteria and delivery requirements.

35. A method according to Claim 30 further comprising the steps of searching a database to identify equipment which match criteria supplied by the customer in response to prompting the customer to provide information regarding the equipment to be subject to the lease transaction, and displaying to the customer at least some information relating to at least some of the equipment identified from the database search.

36. A method according to Claim 35 wherein a customer is prompted to select at least one of the identified equipment, and further comprising the step of generating a term sheet using the customer provided information.

37. A method according to Claim 35 wherein the equipment comprises at least one of aircraft, aircraft engines, rail cars, locomotives, ships, vehicles, and containers.

38. A method for initiating a lease transaction, said method comprising the steps of:

selecting, from an electronic interface, a lease transaction type;

identifying, from the electronic interface, equipment desired to be subject to the lease;

requesting, from the electronic interface, a term sheet for the selected lease type and identified equipment.

39. A method according to Claim 38 wherein said lease transaction type comprises at least one of a lease extension, a lease, and a purchase lease back agreement.

40. A method according to Claim 39 wherein for a lease extension, said method comprises the step of identifying the lease desired to be extended.

41. A method according to Claim 38 wherein identifying the equipment desired to be subject to the lease comprises the step of identifying the desired equipment type and criteria to be satisfied by the desired equipment.

42. A method according to Claim 38 wherein the equipment comprises at least one of aircraft, aircraft engines, rail cars, locomotives, ships, vehicles, and containers.

43. Apparatus comprising:

means for prompting a customer to select a type of lease transaction;

means for prompting the customer to provide information regarding equipment to be subject to the lease transaction; and

means for prompting the customer to request generation of a term sheet for the lease transaction.

44. Apparatus according to Claim 43 wherein said means prompting a customer to select a type of lease transaction comprises means for displaying a computer generated screen listing a plurality of lease transaction type selections.

45. Apparatus according to Claim 44 wherein said lease transaction type selections comprise at least one of a lease extension, a lease, and a purchase lease back agreement.

46. Apparatus according to Claim 45 wherein for a lease extension, said means for prompting a customer to provide information regarding equipment to be subject to the lease transaction displays information related to at least one lease to the customer.

47. Apparatus according to Claim 43 wherein said means for prompting the customer to provide information regarding equipment to be subject to the lease transaction comprises means for displaying a computer generated screen listing a plurality of equipment criteria and delivery requirements.

48. Apparatus according to Claim 43 further comprising means for searching a database to identify equipment which match criteria supplied by the customer in response to prompting the customer to provide information regarding the equipment to be subject to the lease transaction, and means for displaying to the customer at least some information relating to at least some of the equipment identified from the database search.

49. Apparatus according to Claim 48 further comprising means for generating a term sheet using the customer provided information.

50. Apparatus according to Claim 43 wherein said equipment comprises at least one of aircraft, aircraft engines, rail cars, locomotives, and ships.

51. A system for facilitating a lease transaction for aircraft, said system comprising:

a database comprising data for aircraft;

a server configured to prompt a customer to select a type of lease transaction, prompt the customer to provide information regarding aircraft desired to

be subject to the lease transaction, and prompt the customer to request generation of a term sheet for the lease transaction.

52. A system according to Claim 51 wherein to prompt a customer to select a type of lease transaction, said server causes to be displayed on a customer computer a computer generated screen listing a plurality of lease transaction type selections.

53. A system according to Claim 52 wherein said lease transaction type selections comprise at least one of a lease extension, a lease, and a purchase lease back agreement.

54. A system according to Claim 53 wherein for a lease extension, to prompt a customer to provide information regarding aircraft to be subject to the lease transaction, said server causes to be displayed on a customer computer information related to at least one lease to the customer.

55. A system according to Claim 51 wherein to prompt the customer to provide information regarding aircraft to be subject to the lease transaction, said server causes to be displayed on a customer computer a display listing a plurality of aircraft criteria and delivery requirements.

56. A system according to Claim 51 wherein said server is further configured to search said database to identify aircraft which match criteria supplied by the customer, and to cause to be displayed on a customer computer at least some information relating to at least some of the aircraft identified from the database search.

57. A system according to Claim 56 wherein said server is configured to cause to be displayed on a customer computer a prompt to select at least one of the identified aircraft.

58. A system for facilitating a lease transaction for an aircraft engine, said system comprising:

a database comprising data for aircraft engines;

a server configured to prompt a customer to select a type of lease transaction, prompt the customer to provide information regarding aircraft engine

desired to be subject to the lease transaction, and prompt the customer to request generation of a term sheet for the lease transaction.

59. A system according to Claim 58 wherein to prompt a customer to select a type of lease transaction, said server causes to be displayed on a customer computer a display listing a plurality of lease transaction type selections.

60. A system according to Claim 59 wherein said lease transaction type selections comprise at least one of a lease extension, a lease, and a purchase lease back agreement.

61. A system according to Claim 60 wherein for a lease extension, to prompt a customer to provide information regarding an aircraft engine to be subject to the lease transaction, said server causes to be displayed on a customer computer information related to at least one lease to the customer.

62. A system according to Claim 58 wherein to prompt the customer to provide information regarding an aircraft engine to be subject to the lease transaction, said server causes to be displayed on a customer computer a computer generated screen listing a plurality of aircraft engine criteria and delivery requirements.

63. A system according to Claim 58 wherein said server is further configured to search said database to identify aircraft engines which match criteria supplied by the customer, and to cause to be displayed on a customer computer at least some information relating to at least some of the aircraft engines identified from the database search.

64. A system according to Claim 63 wherein said server is configured to cause to be displayed on a customer computer a prompt to select at least one of the identified aircraft engines.

65. A computer-readable medium, comprising:
a record of customer submitted availability queries;
a plurality of rules for matching equipment to the customer submitted availability queries; and

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a record of results from applying the matching rules to the customer submitted availability queries.

5 *5* 66. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 65 wherein the equipment comprises at least one of aircraft, aircraft engines, rail cars, locomotives, and ships.

67 67. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 65 wherein said availability query record comprises a query number and a model.

10 68. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 65 further comprising a record of required delivery dates comprising a query number, a delivery year, a delivery month, and a quantity.

69. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 65 wherein said record of results comprises a result number, a query number, and a term sheet request.

15 70. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 65 further comprising a record of availability.